

The Belzoni Banner

\$1.00

Serving the Heart of the Yazoo-Mississippi Delta



Volume 118 Number 43 One Section 8 Pages, Wednesday, October 21, 2026 Web: www.thebelzonibanner.com E-mail: editor@thebelzonibanner.com

Two local authors publish

WRITING WITH A PURPOSE

Jamesia Nicholson is a self-published author and the creator of **Writing With A Purpose**, a platform centered around using words to inspire, encourage, and create positive action. Through her books, Jamesia writes about experiences, creativity, learning, self-expression, and encouragement for children and teens.

Published Works Children's & Autism Collection

- *The World Through My Eyes: A Little Boy with a Big Imagination*
- *I Am Amazing: Autism Coloring Book*
- *I Am Amazing: Autism Sticker & Learning Book*
- *I Am Amazing: Activity Book*
- **Teen Collection**
- *The Difference Between Me and You: The Teen Edition*
- *More Coming Soon*

About Writing With A Purpose

Writing With A Pur-



Jamesia Nicholson

pose — Words That Inspire Action.

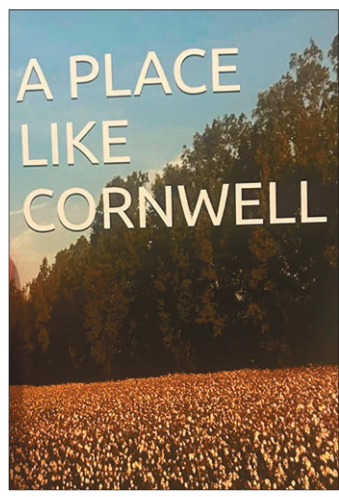
Writing With A Purpose is Jamesia's author brand and creative platform, where she shares books and messages designed to encourage readers and remind them that their experiences and voices matter.

Where to Find the Books

Jamesia's books are available through Barnes & Noble.

Social Media:

Facebook: Writing With A Purpose
Instagram: @NicholsonAuthor_25
TikTok: @nicholsonauthor
Jamesia Nicholson is



By Tracy Rainey

a student at MDCC and a native of Belzoni, MS. She is also an Author of several books.

A PLACE LIKE CORNWELL

By Tracy Rainey

Tracy Rainey has written a short book based on a fictional delta town! It's a little over 35,000 words. Tracy's book is available now in paperback and Kindle edition on Amazon! Tracy is from Humphreys County and put her heart into this book!

Tracy has committed to donating 10% of Amazon sales going directly to Humphreys County

Open enrollment season is here, signup safely

JACKSON, Miss. – The open enrollment period for Medicare has begun, and open enrollment for the Health Insurance Marketplace starts soon. During this time, you may change your health and prescription drug coverage for the upcoming year. While the Mississippi Insurance Department (MID) does not regulate Medicare or the Federal Exchange, MID is available to answer questions if you have concerns or are confused by the open enrollment process.

“Open enrollment is an opportunity for Mississippians to evaluate their health care needs and find coverage that fits their individual circumstances. Not every Mississippian has the same needs, financial situation, or coverage requirements. The important thing is for consumers to understand their options, carefully consider the benefits and limitations of each, and make informed decisions about what works best for them and their families,” said Insurance Commissioner Mike Chaney.

Medicare open enrollment began October 15, 2026, and runs through December 7, 2026.

- **Don't be scammed.** Be cautious when contacted about private Medicare coverage.
- **Only work with state-licensed agents.** Find a list of Medicare agents or brokers near you at Medicaresupp.org
- Agents offering Medicare Advantage plans may not make unsolicited contact, such as door-to-door sales or cold calls. Agents must make an appointment before coming to your home.
- Agents cannot sell non-health insurance products during Medicare presentations. Sales are also prohibited in healthcare settings, educational events, or via free meals at promotions.
- **Never share personal information with unverified agents.** Only provide personal info to licensed agents, once verified for enrollment and billing.
- Visit the official Medicare website, Medicare.gov, rather than clicking on unsolicited ads, emails, or texts offering insurance.

Affordable Care Act (ACA) or Health Insurance Marketplace Open Enrollment runs from November 1, 2026, through January 15, 2027.

- Enroll by December 15 for coverage beginning January 1; enroll by January 15 for coverage beginning February 1.
- **Don't automatically renew your current plan.** Compare your current coverage with the plans available for the new year. Your premiums, benefits, provider networks, and other costs may have changed.
- **Have your information ready.** Gather Social Security numbers, dates of birth, income information, such as pay stubs or W-2s, current insurance information, and information about any job-based coverage available to your household.
- **Estimate your income carefully.** Your household income helps determine whether you qualify for financial assistance, so provide your best estimate for the coming year.
- **Look beyond the monthly premium.** Compare deductibles, copayments, coinsurance, out-of-pocket maximums, and the doctors, hospitals, and prescriptions covered by each plan.
- **Update your household information.** Marriage, divorce, changes to dependents, changes in income, or other household changes can affect your coverage and savings.
- **Watch for requests for additional information.** The Marketplace may ask you to verify income, citizenship, immigration status, or other information. Missing a deadline could affect your coverage or financial assistance.
- **Finish the enrollment process.** Choosing a plan isn't necessarily the final step. You must pay your first premium directly to the insurance company for coverage to begin.

Visit the official marketplace website, HealthCare.gov, rather than clicking on unsolicited ads, emails, or texts offering insurance.

Trump administration announces \$8 billion harvest fuel relief program

(Washington, D.C., October 19, 2026) – Today, President Donald J. Trump, alongside U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke L. Rollins, announced the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will make \$8 billion available for one-time payments to American farmers this harvest season to provide relief during temporary market disruptions and increased input costs.

“President Trump is the most pro-farmer president of my lifetime and he is continuing to put Farmers First every day,” said Secretary of Agriculture Brooke L. Rollins. “Today, I am proud to announce alongside President Trump more targeted relief is coming to our farmers through the Harvest Fuel Relief program. This \$8 billion dollar investment will

help bring certainty to our farmers during this harvest so they can continue to feed our nation.”

Similar to the Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) program, the Harvest Fuel Relief (HFR) program will provide simple, proportional support to producers using a uniform formula to cover a portion of modeled losses during the 2026 crop year. This national loss average will be based on FSA reported planted acres, Economic Research Service cost of production estimates, and World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates yields and prices.

The \$8 billion in payments provided through the Harvest Fuel Relief program are authorized under the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Charter Act and will be administered by

the Farm Service Agency (FSA).

Commodity-specific payment rates for Title I commodities will be released in November. Payment methodology for other eligible commodities will be announced at a later date. Crop insurance linkage will not be required for participation in the Harvest Fuel Relief program; however, USDA strongly urges producers to take advantage of the enhanced risk management tools included in the Working Families Tax Cuts Act to best protect against price risk and volatility in the future.

Producers of non-Title I commodities, including specialty crop growers and fishermen, are encouraged to provide data related to increased fuel costs to HarvestFuel@usda.gov for USDA's

consideration when determining payment rates.

Eligible producers are encouraged to create a Login.gov account in advance of the application period announcement. Pre-filled applications will be available online to producers with a Login.gov account linked to USDA.

The Harvest Fuel Relief program builds upon the Trump administration's

unprecedented support for America's farmers. Earlier this year, the Farmer Bridge Assistance program delivered \$12 billion in one-time bridge payments over 560,000 farmers across the country. Just two weeks ago, nearly \$14 billion in gross payments were provided to producers through the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and Price Loss Coverage

(PLC) programs through The Working Families Tax Cuts Act – an approximate \$8 billion increase over what farmers would have received without the historic bill.

To see more of how the Trump Administration putting farmers first please visit: <https://www.usda.gov/farmers-first>

Mississippi Delegation Celebrates Vicksburg National Military Park Bill Signed into Law

Washington — U.S. Senators Roger Wicker, R-Miss., and Cindy Hyde-Smith, R-Miss., along with U.S. Congressmen Bennie Thompson, D-Miss., Trent Kelly, R-Miss., Michael Guest, R-Miss., and Mike Ezell, R-Miss., welcomed the signing of the *Vicksburg National Military Park Boundary Modification Act* into law. This legislation permits the State of Mississippi to build a new informational visitor center and make necessary structural improvements around the park. Congressman Bennie Thompson introduced this

legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives, which was approved on March 16, 2026. Last month, Senators Wicker and Hyde-Smith led the effort to push the bill through the Senate, where it received unanimous support. Tomorrow, Mississippi leaders will gather at the national park for a groundbreaking ceremony for the new visitor center. Following the bill signing, the Mississippi delegation released the following statement:

“Vicksburg National Military Park tells a core part of Mississippi's story, and it is a key source of eco-

nomic activity in the South Delta. We came together in a bipartisan manner to move this legislation through Congress and support our state's efforts to preserve this chapter of our history.

“We are grateful to President Trump for signing this bill into law and to all of our partners in Congress and Mississippi who made this moment possible. As we celebrate this occasion, we are excited for the countless students, families, and visitors who will experience this part of our history when visiting Vicksburg.”

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SUBSCRIPTIONS - IN ADVANCE:
Zip codes: 39038, 39097, 39115, 39166 & 38754, \$30.00 per year; All others \$35.00 per year. Add \$5.00 for online access.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF
MISSISSIPPI
GREENVILLE DIVISION
GULF SOUTH PIPELINE COMPANY LLC
PLAINTIFF
VS. CIVIL ACTION NO. 4:26-CV-00186-
GHD-JMV
43.80 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, IN
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI,
LUCY BROWN, AND UNKNOWN OWNERS
HAVING INTEREST IN SAID PROPERTY
DEFENDANTS
5.00 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, IN
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI,
LUCY BROWN, AND UNKNOWN OWNERS
HAVING INTEREST IN SAID PROPERTY
FEDERAL RULE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE
71.1(D)
**NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT OF
CONDEMNATION ACTION**
TO LUCY EDWARDS BROWN
118 South Walker Street
Indianola, Mississippi 38751
43.80 ACRES, MORE OR LESS,
In Section 31, Township 17 North, Range 3
West,
Humphreys County, Mississippi
UNKNOWN OWNERS OF THE PROPERTY
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on September
24, 2026, a Complaint was filed in the above-
captioned matter by Plaintiff Gulf South Pipeline
Company LLC ("Gulf South") in which you are
named as a Defendant.
Nature of the Action
The above-captioned matter is an action by
Gulf South, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 717f(h)
and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 71.1, for
the condemnation of a natural gas pipeline
easement and right of way across the property
described below, in which you have or may
have an ownership interest. Gulf South is also
applying to the court for an order confirming
its condemnation authority and for immediate
possession of the property interests condemned
through the issuance of a preliminary injunction.
Description of the Property
The property subject to the above-captioned
matter is described as follows:
5.00 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, in Section 31,
Township 17 North, Range 3 West, Humphreys
County, Mississippi, being a portion of 48.76
acres, more or less, being Lot 34 of the Barr and
Miller Place, as shown by the Plat recorded in
Plat Book 3, Page 1, Plat Records, Humphreys
County, Mississippi, situated in Section 31,
Township 17 North, Range 3 West, Humphreys
County, Mississippi; being conveyed in that
certain Warranty Deed dated February 25,
2012, from Nelson Brown, III, to McBride Farm
& Outfitters, LLC, recorded in Book 174, Page
361; and being more particularly described in
that certain Warranty Deed dated October 7,
2014, from McBride Farm & Outfitters, LLC, a
Mississippi limited liability company, to Sky Lake
Land, LLC, recorded in Book 184, Page 669,
Deed Records, Humphreys County, Mississippi.
It is referred to hereafter as the "Property" and
is also depicted in the Easement and Right of
Way attached to this Notice as Exhibit 1.
Authority for the Taking
Gulf South is a natural gas company that is
in the business of transporting natural gas in
interstate commerce pursuant to authorization
granted by the Federal Energy Regulatory
Commission ("FERC"). As such, Gulf South is
subject to the jurisdiction of FERC. Gulf South
currently owns and operates approximately
7,260 miles of interstate pipeline facilities
extending from south and east Texas through
Louisiana, Mississippi, southern Alabama, and
western Florida.
On September 10, 2026, FERC issued to Gulf
South a Certificate of Public Convenience and
Necessity (the "FERC Certificate") authorizing
Gulf South to construct and operate 8 miles
of 36-inch diameter pipeline in Humphreys
and Sunflower counties, Mississippi, along
with associated facilities at the existing Isola
compressor station in Humphreys County,
Mississippi, as part of a project known as the
Kosciusko Junction Pipeline Project. The
project, which also involves the construction of
natural gas pipeline facilities in other Mississippi
counties, will create approximately 1,175 million
dekatherms per day (Dth/d) of additional firm
transportation service for Gulf South customers.
A copy of the FERC Certificate is attached as
Exhibit 2.
The FERC Certificate requires the Kosciusko
Junction Pipeline Project to be in-service by
September 10, 2028. See FERC Certificate,
Exhibit 2, at 10. Gulf South's contractual
agreements with shippers on the Kosciusko
Junction Pipeline Project require the facilities
to be in service by April 1, 2028. Gulf South
has scheduled commencement of construction
work on the Pipeline for January 18, 2027. Gulf
South must begin construction work by then to
ensure compliance with FERC's construction
schedule, completion of the project within FERC
and the shippers' deadlines, and an adequate
supply of construction labor—for which Gulf
South must contract months in advance of
project initiation.
In order to timely construct, operate and
maintain the Pipeline, as approved by FERC, it
is necessary that Gulf South have and obtain a
permanent easement and right of way along the
route and location over, through, upon,
under and across the Property (the "Permanent
Easement") as well as temporary workspace
("Temporary Workspace"). The Permanent
Easement and Temporary Workspace are more
definitely depicted and described in Exhibit
1. The Permanent Easement and Temporary
Workspace are hereafter referred to collectively as
the "Easements."
Specifically, Gulf South seeks to acquire the
Easements, rights and interests set forth below:
**Sky Lake Land, LLC Property (HMP-
0007.010) ("the Sky Lake Property")**
(i) Permanent Easement: 3.17 acres
(ii) Temporary Workspace: 5.47 acres
The Easements are sought for, necessary for,
and to be used for the purposes of constructing,
reconstructing, renewing, operating, maintain-
ing, protecting, inspecting, repairing, changing
the size of, abandoning-in-place, removing
and/or replacing pipelines, not to exceed 36
inches nominal diameter, together with such
valves, pipes, fittings, meters, corrosion control
devices, wires, cables and other equipment and
appurtenances (collectively the "Facilities") as
may be necessary or convenient for the trans-
portation of oil, petroleum products, natural gas
and its constituents, for the protection of
said Facilities, or for the maintenance of the
Easements. The Permanent Easements shall
be approximately 50 feet in width, located as
depicted and described in Exhibit 1. That
exhibit also describes and depicts the location
of the Temporary Workspace.
Gulf South seeks use of the Permanent
Easement for the purposes set forth herein until
such time as Gulf South releases its rights in
them. Gulf South seeks use of the Temporary
Workspace only during construction of the
Facilities and any periods of restoration work,
anticipated not to exceed September 10, 2028.
After Gulf South has completed its construction
of the Facilities and any restoration work, Gulf
South's interest in the Temporary Workspace
will revert to the Landowners. Gulf South may
select the location of its Facilities within the
Permanent Easement.
The Easements sought include a permanent
right of ingress, egress, entry and access in,
to, through, on, over, under, and across the
Permanent Easement, and where the same
intersect the boundaries of the Property or any
public road, public easement, or easements
held by Gulf South on other property con-
tiguous to the Permanent Easements, for any
and all purposes necessary and/or incident to
the rights sought hereunder. During construction
of the Facilities and any period of restoration,
these same rights of ingress, egress, entry
and access shall also apply to the Temporary
Workspace.
The Landowners shall retain the right to fully
use and enjoy the Permanent Easement (in-
cluding but not limited to the cultivation of crops
within the area of the Permanent Easements)
except to the extent such uses interfere with
the rights of Gulf South. Landowners shall
not build, create or construct, nor allow to be
built, created, or constructed, any obstruction
(including impounded water), building, improve-
ment or other structure within the Permanent
Easements, nor shall the Landowners place,
nor allow to be placed, any trees or debris on the
Permanent Easements, nor reduce the depth of
the cover of the ground over the Facilities. Gulf
South shall have the right to clear and keep the
Easements cleared of trees, shrubs, brush, or
other debris during their term.
Gulf South does not seek to acquire, but
reserves to Landowners, all oil, gas and other
minerals in, on and under the Easements; pro-
vided that Landowners shall not be entitled to
drill, explore, or excavate for minerals on the
surface of the Easements during their term,
but will be permitted to extract oil, gas and
other minerals from under the Easements
by directional drilling or other means so long
as such activities do not damage, endanger,
disturb, injure and/or interfere with Gulf South's
Facilities or its use of the Easements.
Gulf South shall have the right to assign the
Easements, in whole or in part, subject to any
applicable regulatory approval.
Appearance or Answer
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if you
have any objection or defense to the condemna-
tion you may serve on the undersigned counsel
for Gulf South, no later than twenty-one (21)
days after service of this notice on you, an
answer, identifying the portion of the Property
in which you claim an interest; stating the nature
and extent of the interest claimed; and stating all
your objections and defenses to condemnation

of the Property. Your failure to serve an answer
will constitute your consent to the taking and to
the court's authority to proceed with the action
and fix the just compensation for the taking of
the Property.
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if you
have no objection or defense to condemnation of
the Property, you may file a notice of ap-
pearance and serve the same on Gulf South's
undersigned counsel designating any portion
of the property in which you claim an interest,
and thereafter, you shall receive notice of all
proceedings affecting the Property.
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that at the
trial of the issue of just compensation, whether
by bench trial, jury trial or a commission of three
commissioners appointed by the court, and
whether or not you have answered or served
a notice of appearance, you may present evi-
dence regarding the amount of compensation
to be paid for the Property in which you have an
interest and you may share in the distribution of
any compensation award.
Conclusion
Gulf South's attorney's contact information,
including the address within the court's district
in which this action is brought where the at-
torney may be served, is set out below. The
Greenville Division of the United States District
Court for the Northern District of Mississippi has
the following mailing address: Federal Building
Room 369, 911 Jackson Avenue East, Oxford,
Mississippi 38655.
Dated: September 25th, 2026
Respectfully submitted,
GULF SOUTH PIPELINE COMPANY, LLC
BY: /s/ Ben Bryant
Of Counsel
William L. Smith Sr. (7635)
Donald Alan Windham (100909)
Benjamin Bryant (103623)
BALCH & BINGHAM, LLP
188 E. Capitol Street, Suite 1400
P. O. Box 22587 (39225)
Jackson, Mississippi 39201
Telephone: (601) 965-8171
Facsimile: (601) 961-4466
bsmith@balch.com
bbryant@balch.com
1484 43-45

**SUBSTITUTE TRUSTEE'S
NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE**
WHEREAS, on June 8, 2010, Shumeka
Smith executed a certain Deed of Trust to
Thelma A. Glasco, Rural Development Area
Three Director, Trustee for the use and benefit
of the United States of America acting through
the Rural Housing Service or successor agency,
United States Department of Agriculture
which Deed of Trust is of record in the office
of the Chancery Clerk of Humphreys County,
Mississippi, on June 8, 2010, in Book 274,
Page 283, as Document Number 2010 999028.
WHEREAS, United States of America, ac-
ting through the Rural Housing Service, United
States Department of Agriculture, the current
holder and/or assignee, substituted Halliday,
Watkins & Mann, P.C. as Trustee by instrument
recorded in the Chancery Clerk's Office on July
23, 2026 in T DT Book 0377, in Page 362, as
Document Number 2026000661; and
WHEREAS, Default having been made in the
terms and conditions of said deed of trust and
the entire debt secured thereby having been
declared to be due and payable in accordance
with the terms of said deed of trust, United
States of America, acting through the Rural
Housing Service, United States Department
of Agriculture, the legal holder of said indebt-
edness, having requested the undersigned
Substitute Trustee in said deed of trust, will on
October 30, 2026 offer for sale at public outcry
and sell within legal hours (being between
the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.) at the
north front door of the Humphreys County
Courthouse, to the highest and best bidder for
cash the following described property situated in
Humphreys County, Mississippi, to wit:
Lot 3 of the Solomon-Allen Addition to the
City of Belzoni, Humphreys County, Mississippi,
a subdivision according to a map or plat
thereof on file and of record in the office of
the Chancery Clerk of Humphreys County at
Belzoni, Mississippi, in Plat Book 3 at Page 40,
reference to which is hereby made in aid of and
as a part of this description.
More commonly known as: 1013 First Street,
Belzoni, MS 39038
I will convey only such title as vested in me
as Substituted Trustee.
Important Notice to Potential Bidders:
Federal law administered by the Financial
Crimes Enforcement Network ("FinCEN"), a
bureau of the U.S. Department of the Treasury,
requires certain residential real estate transac-
tions to be reported to the federal government. If
you are the winning bidder at auction, you may
be required to provide identifying information
about yourself and, if applicable, any entity or
trust purchasing the property. This information
is required by federal law and must be provided
to complete the sale. Failure to provide required
information after the sale may delay or prevent
issuance of the foreclosure deed.
Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C.
Substitute Trustee
Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C.
1107 Highland Colony Pkwy, Suite 207
Ridgeland, MS 39157
(801) 355-2886
Publication dates: September 9, 2026,
October 7, 2026, October 14, 2026, October 21,
2026, October 28, 2026
489 37, 41-44

United States District Court
For the
Northern District of Mississippi
GULF SOUTH PIPELINE COMPANY, LLC,
Plaintiffs
v.
43.80 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, IN
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, LUCY
EDWARDS BROWN, et al
Civil Action No. 4:26-CV-186-GHD-JMV
SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION
To: Unknown Owners of 43.80 ACRES,
MORE OR LESS, in Section 31, Township
17 North, Range 3 West, Humphreys County,
Mississippi, consisting of Lot 34 of the Barr and
Miller Place, as shown by the Plat recorded in
Plat Book 3, Page 1, Plat Records, Humphreys
County, Mississippi, situated in Section 31,
Township 17 North, Range 3 West, Humphreys
County, Mississippi; being described in that cer-
tain Warranty Deed dated October 7, 2014, from
McBride Farm & Outfitters, LLC, a Mississippi
limited liability company, to Sky Lake Land,
LLC, recorded in Book 184, Page 669, Deed
Records, Humphreys County, Mississippi
A lawsuit has been filed against you.
Within 21 days after service of this summons
on you (not counting the day you received it) 60
days if you are the United States or a United
States agency, or an officer or employee of the
United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12
(a)(2) or (3) -you must serve on the plaintiff an
answer to the attached complaint or a motion
under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil
Procedure. The answer or motion must be
served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney,
whose name and address are:
Benjamin Bryant
BALCH & BINGHAM, LLP
188 E. Capitol Street, Suite 1400
Jackson, Mississippi 39201
If you fail to respond, judgment by default will
be entered against you for the relief demanded
in the complaint.
You also must file your answer or motion
with the court.
CLERK OF COURT
Date: 10-16-2026
s/ DANIEL B. McHUGH
Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk
By RCM 302 43-45

Do people read
small ads?
You just did!

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF
MISSISSIPPI
GREENVILLE DIVISION
GULF SOUTH PIPELINE COMPANY LLC
PLAINTIFF
VS. CIVIL ACTION NO. 4:26-CV-00186-
GHD-JMV
43.80 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, IN
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI,
LUCY BROWN, AND UNKNOWN OWNERS
HAVING INTEREST IN SAID PROPERTY
DEFENDANTS
5.00 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, IN
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI,
LUCY BROWN, AND UNKNOWN OWNERS
HAVING INTEREST IN SAID PROPERTY
FEDERAL RULE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE
71.1(D)
**NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT OF
CONDEMNATION ACTION**
TO LUCY EDWARDS BROWN
118 South Walker Street
Indianola, Mississippi 38751
43.80 ACRES, MORE OR LESS,
In Section 31, Township 17 North, Range 3
West, Humphreys County, Mississippi
UNKNOWN OWNERS OF THE PROPERTY
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on September
24, 2026, a Complaint was filed in the above-
captioned matter by Plaintiff Gulf South Pipeline
Company LLC ("Gulf South") in which you are
named as a Defendant.
Nature of the Action
The above-captioned matter is an action by
Gulf South, pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 717f(h)
and Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 71.1, for
the condemnation of a natural gas pipeline
easement and right of way across the property
described below, in which you have or may
have an ownership interest. Gulf South is also
applying to the court for an order confirming
its condemnation authority and for immediate
possession of the property interests condemned
through the issuance of a preliminary injunction.
Description of the Property
The property subject to the above-captioned
matter is described as follows:
43.80 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, in Section
31, Township 17 North, Range 3 West,
Humphreys County, Mississippi, consisting of
Lot 34 of the Barr and Miller Place, as shown
by the Plat recorded in Plat Book 3, Page 1,
Plat Records, Humphreys County, Mississippi;
being described in that certain Warranty
Deed dated October 7, 2014, from McBride
Farm & Outfitters, LLC, a Mississippi limited
liability company, to Sky Lake Land, LLC, re-
corded in Book 184, Page 669, Deed Records,
Humphreys County, Mississippi.
It is referred to hereafter as the "Property"
and is also depicted in the Easement and Right
of Way attached to this Notice as Exhibit 1.
Authority for the Taking
Gulf South is a natural gas company that is
in the business of transporting natural gas in
interstate commerce pursuant to authorization
granted by the Federal Energy Regulatory
Commission ("FERC"). As such, Gulf South is
subject to the jurisdiction of FERC. Gulf South
currently owns and operates approximately
7,260 miles of interstate pipeline facilities
extending from south and east Texas through
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On September 10, 2026, FERC issued to Gulf
South a Certificate of Public Convenience and
Necessity (the "FERC Certificate") authorizing
Gulf South to construct and operate 8 miles
of 36-inch diameter pipeline in Humphreys
and Sunflower counties, Mississippi, along
with associated facilities at the existing Isola
compressor station in Humphreys County,
Mississippi, as part of a project known as the
Kosciusko Junction Pipeline Project. The
project, which also involves the construction of
natural gas pipeline facilities in other Mississippi
counties, will create approximately 1,175 million
dekatherms per day (Dth/d) of additional firm
transportation service for Gulf South customers.
A copy of the FERC Certificate is attached as
Exhibit 2.
The FERC Certificate requires the Kosciusko
Junction Pipeline Project to be in-service by
September 10, 2028. See FERC Certificate,
Exhibit 2, at 10. Gulf South's contractual
agreements with shippers on the Kosciusko
Junction Pipeline Project require the facilities
to be in service by April 1, 2028. Gulf South
has scheduled commencement of construction
work on the Pipeline for January 18, 2027. Gulf
South must begin construction work by then to
ensure compliance with FERC's construction
schedule, completion of the project within FERC
and the shippers' deadlines, and an adequate
supply of construction labor—for which Gulf
South must contract months in advance of
project initiation.
In order to timely construct, operate and
maintain the Pipeline, as approved by FERC, it
is necessary that Gulf South have and obtain a
permanent easement and right of way along the
route and location over, through, upon,
under and across the Property (the "Permanent
Easement") as well as temporary workspace
("Temporary Workspace"). The Permanent
Easement and Temporary Workspace are more
definitely depicted and described in Exhibit
1. The Permanent Easement and Temporary
Workspace are hereafter referred to collectively as
the "Easements."
Specifically, Gulf South seeks to acquire the
Easements, rights and interests set forth below:
**Sky Lake Land, LLC Property (HMP-
0007.010) ("the Sky Lake Property")**
(i) Permanent Easement: 3.17 acres
(ii) Temporary Workspace: 5.47 acres
The Easements are sought for, necessary for,
and to be used for the purposes of constructing,
reconstructing, renewing, operating, maintain-
ing, protecting, inspecting, repairing, changing
the size of, abandoning-in-place, removing
and/or replacing pipelines, not to exceed 36
inches nominal diameter, together with such
valves, pipes, fittings, meters, corrosion control
devices, wires, cables and other equipment and
appurtenances (collectively the "Facilities") as
may be necessary or convenient for the trans-
portation of oil, petroleum products, natural gas
and its constituents, for the protection of
said Facilities, or for the maintenance of the
Easements. The Permanent Easements shall
be approximately 50 feet in width, located as
depicted and described in Exhibit 1. That
exhibit also describes and depicts the location
of the Temporary Workspace.
Gulf South seeks use of the Permanent
Easement for the purposes set forth herein until
such time as Gulf South releases its rights in
them. Gulf South seeks use of the Temporary
Workspace only during construction of the
Facilities and any periods of restoration work,
anticipated not to exceed September 10, 2028.
After Gulf South has completed its construction
of the Facilities and any restoration work, Gulf
South's interest in the Temporary Workspace
will revert to the Landowners. Gulf South may
select the location of its Facilities within the
Permanent Easement.
The Easements sought include a permanent
right of ingress, egress, entry and access in,
to, through, on, over, under, and across the
Permanent Easement, and where the same
intersect the boundaries of the Property or any
public road, public easement, or easements
held by Gulf South on other property con-
tiguous to the Permanent Easements, for any
and all purposes necessary and/or incident to
the rights sought hereunder. During construction
of the Facilities and any period of restoration,
these same rights of ingress, egress, entry
and access shall also apply to the Temporary
Workspace.
The Landowners shall retain the right to fully
use and enjoy the Permanent Easement (in-
cluding but not limited to the cultivation of crops
within the area of the Permanent Easements)
except to the extent such uses interfere with
the rights of Gulf South. Landowners shall
not build, create or construct, nor allow to be
built, created, or constructed, any obstruction
(including impounded water), building, improve-
ment or other structure within the Permanent
Easements, nor shall the Landowners place,
nor allow to be placed, any trees or debris on the
Permanent Easements, nor reduce the depth of
the cover of the ground over the Facilities. Gulf
South shall have the right to clear and keep the
Easements cleared of trees, shrubs, brush, or
other debris during their term.
Gulf South does not seek to acquire, but
reserves to Landowners, all oil, gas and other
minerals in, on and under the Easements; pro-
vided that Landowners shall not be entitled to
drill, explore, or excavate for minerals on the
surface of the Easements during their term,
but will be permitted to extract oil, gas and
other minerals from under the Easements
by directional drilling or other means so long
as such activities do not damage, endanger,
disturb, injure and/or interfere with Gulf South's
Facilities or its use of the Easements.
Gulf South shall have the right to assign the
Easements, in whole or in part, subject to any
applicable regulatory approval.
Appearance or Answer
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if you
have any objection or defense to the condemna-
tion you may serve on the undersigned counsel
for Gulf South, no later than twenty-one (21)
days after service of this notice on you, an
answer, identifying the portion of the Property
in which you claim an interest; stating the nature
and extent of the interest claimed; and stating all
your objections and defenses to condemnation

of the court's authority to proceed with the action
and fix the just compensation for the taking of
the Property.
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that if you
have no objection or defense to condemnation of
the Property, you may file a notice of ap-
pearance and serve the same on Gulf South's
undersigned counsel designating any portion
of the property in which you claim an interest,
and thereafter, you shall receive notice of all
proceedings affecting the Property.
YOU ARE FURTHER NOTIFIED that at the
trial of the issue of just compensation, whether
by bench trial, jury trial or a commission of three
commissioners appointed by the court, and
whether or not you have answered or served
a notice of appearance, you may present evi-
dence regarding the amount of compensation
to be paid for the Property in which you have an
interest and you may share in the distribution of
any compensation award.
Conclusion
Gulf South's attorney's contact information,
including the address within the court's district
in which this action is brought where the at-
torney may be served, is set out below. The
Greenville Division of the United States District
Court for the Northern District of Mississippi has
the following mailing address: Federal Building
Room 369, 911 Jackson Avenue East, Oxford,
Mississippi 38655.
Dated: September 25th, 2026
Respectfully submitted,
GULF SOUTH PIPELINE COMPANY, LLC
BY: /s/ Ben Bryant
Of Counsel
William L. Smith Sr. (7635)
Donald Alan Windham (100909)
Benjamin Bryant (103623)
BALCH & BINGHAM, LLP
188 E. Capitol Street, Suite 1400
P. O. Box 22587 (39225)
Jackson, Mississippi 39201
Telephone: (601) 965-8171
Facsimile: (601) 961-4466
bsmith@balch.com
bbryant@balch.com
1664 43-45

United States District Court
For the
Northern District of Mississippi
GULF SOUTH PIPELINE COMPANY, LLC,
Plaintiffs
v.
43.80 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, IN
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, LUCY
EDWARDS BROWN, et al
Civil Action No. 4:26-CV-186-GHD-JMV
SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION
To: Unknown Owners of 5.00 ACRES, MORE
OR LESS, in Humphreys County, Mississippi,
in Section 31, Township 17 North, Range 3
West, Humphreys County, Mississippi, be-
ing a portion of 48.76 acres, more or less,
being Lot 34 of the Barr and Miller Place, as
shown by the Plat recorded in Plat Book 3,
Page 1, Plat Records, Humphreys County,
Mississippi, situated in Section 31, Township
17 North, Range 3 West, Humphreys County,
Mississippi; being conveyed in that certain
Warranty Deed dated February 25, 2012, from
Nelson Brown, III, to McBride Farm &
Outfitters, LLC, recorded in Book 174, Page
361; and being more particularly described in
that certain Warranty Deed dated October 7,
2014, from McBride Farm & Outfitters,
LLC, a Mississippi limited liability company,
to Sky Lake Land, LLC, recorded in Book
184, Page 669, Deed Records, Humphreys
County, Mississippi
A lawsuit has been filed against you.
Within 21 days after service of this summons
on you (not counting the day you received it) 60
days if you are the United States or a United
States agency, or an officer or employee of the
United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12
(a)(2) or (3) -you must serve on the plaintiff an
answer to the attached complaint or a motion
under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil
Procedure. The answer or motion must be
served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney,
whose name and address are:
Benjamin Bryant
BALCH & BINGHAM, LLP
188 E. Capitol Street, Suite 1400
Jackson, Mississippi 39201
If you fail to respond, judgment by default will
be entered against you for the relief demanded
in the complaint.
You also must file your answer or motion
with the court.
CLERK OF COURT
Date: 10-16-2026
s/ DANIEL B. McHUGH
Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk
By RCM 344 43-45

**RESOLUTION DECLARING A LOCAL
EMERGENCY FOR HUMPHREYS COUNTY
DUE TO A RECENT ESCALATION OF
VIOLENCE AGAINST PERSONS AND
LACK OF SECURITY
AT COURTHOUSE AND FOR
ADVERTISEMENTS OF INTERIM SHERIFF**
WHEREAS, the Humphreys County is a
governmental entity established under the
laws of the State of Mississippi for the purpose
of supervising county government and serving
the needs of the citizens of Humphreys County,
Mississippi;
WHEREAS, Mississippi Code Annotated
§19-3-40 outlines "The board of supervisors of
any county shall have the power to adopt any
orders, resolutions or ordinances with respect
to county affairs, property and finances, for
which no specific provision has been made
by general law and which are not inconsistent
with the Mississippi Constitution, the Mississippi
Code of 1972, or any other statute or law of the
State of Mississippi";
WHEREAS, Mississippi Code Annotated
§33-15-2(1) outlines "The Legislature finds
and declares that the state is vulnerable to a
wide range of emergencies, including natural,
technological and man-made disasters, all of
which threaten the life, health and safety of
its people; damage and destroy property; dis-
rupt services and everyday business and
recreational activities; and impede economic
growth and development";
WHEREAS, Mississippi Code Annotated
§33-15-5 defines a "Local emergency" as
"the duly proclaimed existence of conditions
of disaster or extreme peril to the safety of
persons and property within the territorial lim-
its of a county and/or municipality caused by
such conditions as air or water pollution, fire,
flood, storm, epidemic, earthquake, hurricane,
resource shortages or other natural or man-
made conditions, which conditions are or are
likely to be beyond the control of the services,
personnel, equipment and facilities of the po-
litical subdivision and require the combined
forces of other subdivisions or of the state to combat";
WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of
the Board of Supervisors of Humphreys County
that there has been a recent and significant
increase of gun violence against the citizens
of Humphreys County;
WHEREAS, it has further come to the at-
tention of the Board of Supervisors of Humphreys
County, via its two justice court judges and
other county stakeholders, of several episodes
of security gaps over the past months at the
Humphreys County Courthouse that has com-
promised the safety and security of courthouse
staff and citizens;
WHEREAS, to assist in the resolution of said
issues, the Board of Supervisors of Humphreys
County finds it necessary to declare a local
emergency and to advertise a notice to the
public of said local emergency and for an
interim Sheriff for Humphreys County and said
advertisements shall be published, as soon as
practical, in the countywide newspaper;
WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of
Humphreys County shall periodically revisit the
surrounding circumstances of said proclaimed
local emergency and determine whether condi-
tions have improved to justify the abatement of
said local emergency declaration;
BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Supervisors
of Humphreys County, considered the declara-
tion of a local emergency, for the reasons as
set forth, and for the advertisements of said
local emergency and an interim sheriff for
Humphreys County at its Recessed Meeting
as conducted on October 5, 2026, and upon
Motion by Henderson and duly seconded by
Johnson for approval of all matters as set forth
and described herein, and upon a vote being
called, received the following result:
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Reggie Pinkston YEA
Woodrow Johnson YEA
Delrick Henderson YEA
Nalrick Lee YEA
James Bankhead YEA
The President of the Board of Supervisors of
Humphreys County then declared the motion
passed and resolution adopted, this the 5th
day of October, 2026.
/s/ Reggie Pinkston, President of the Board
of Supervisors
Humphreys County, Mississippi
/s/ Mack D. Liddell, Secretary for the Board
of Supervisors
Humphreys County, Mississippi
**ALL INTERESTED PERSONS NEED TO
SUBMIT A LETTER OF INTEREST WITH
A RESUME BY OCTOBER 28, 2026, TO
THE HUMPHREYS COUNTY BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS OFFICE**
634 43-44

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Jackie Fratesi - Broker Associate
662-887-5941
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662-207-2082
Mary Randal Stevens -
Sales Associate - 662-379-3065

United States District Court
For the
Northern District of Mississippi
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A lawsuit has been filed against you.
Within 21 days after service of this summons
on you (not counting the day you received it) 60
days if you are the United States or a United
States agency, or an officer or employee of the
United States described in Fed. R. Civ. P. 12
(a)(2) or (3) -you must serve on the plaintiff an
answer to the attached complaint or a motion
under Rule 12 of the Federal Rules of Civil
Procedure. The answer or motion must be
served on the plaintiff or plaintiff's attorney,
whose name and address are:
Benjamin Bryant
BALCH & BINGHAM, LLP
188 E. Capitol Street, Suite 1400
Jackson, Mississippi 39201
If you fail to respond, judgment by default will
be entered against you for the relief demanded
in the complaint.
You also must file your answer or motion
with the court.
CLERK OF COURT
Date: 10-16-2026
s/ DANIEL B. McHUGH
Signature of Clerk or Deputy Clerk
By RCM 344 43-45

**IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI**
No. 2026-0025
In the matter of the
Estate of BRANERIC LAMAR HOLMES,
Deceased
BURL HOLMES, III, Petitioner
SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION
STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
**TO: ALL KNOWN AND UNKNOWN HEIRS AT
LAW OF BRANERIC LAMAR HOLMES,
DECEASED**
**AND ANY AND ALL OTHER PERSONS
CLAIMING OR HAVING A LEGAL OR
EQUITABLE INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF
BRANERIC LAMAR HOLMES, DECEASED**
You have been made a defendant in a matter
filed before this Court by BURL HOLMES,
III, seeking a determination of heirship in
accordance with the laws of the State of
Mississippi. Those claiming to be lawful heirs
of BRANERIC LAMAR HOLMES are BURL
HOLMES, III, BURL HOLMES, JR., BETTY
HOLMES and ANGELICA HOLMES. You are
required to mail or hand deliver a written
response to the Petition filed in this action
to Jonathan W. Davis, J.W. Davis, PLLC,
Post Office Box 29, Indianola, Mississippi
38751-0029.
YOUR RESPONSE MUST BE MAILED OR
DELIVERED NOT LATER THAN THIRTY (30)
DAYS AFTER THE 7th DAY OF OCTOBER,
2026 WHICH IS THE DATE OF THE FIRST
PUBLICATION OF THIS SUMMONS. IF
YOUR RESPONSE IS NOT SO MAILED
OR DELIVERED, A JUDGMENT WILL BE
ENTERED FOR THE RELIEF DEMANDED
IN THE PETITION AND THIS COURT
WILL ESTABLISH THE HEIRS AT LAW OF
BRANERIC LAMAR HOLMES, DECEASED.
You must also file the original of your
response with the clerk of this Court.
You are further summoned to appear
and defend the Petition to Determine Heirs
at Law of BRANERIC LAMAR HOLMES,
Deceased, before the Chancery Court of
Sunflower County, Mississippi on the 10th day
of DECEMBER, 2026, at 9:00 o'clock a.m. at
the Sunflower County Chancery Courthouse
in Indianola, Mississippi, to show cause, if any
you can, in Cause No. **CV26-25**, wherein you
are a respondent, why BURL HOLMES, III,
BURL HOLMES, JR., BETTY HOLMES and
ANGELICA HOLMES should not be declared
as only heirs at law of BRANERIC LAMAR
HOLMES, deceased, pursuant to Section
91-1-27, et seq. of the Mississippi Code, and
why such other relief prayed for should not
be granted. In case of your failure to appear
and defend, a Decree will be entered finding
the above-named to be the only heirs at law
of BRANERIC LAMAR HOLMES, deceased.
ISSUED UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL OF
THIS COURT, this the 2nd day of October, 2026.
/s/MACK D. LIDDELL, JR., CHANCERY
CLERK
HUMPHREYS COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
PREPARED BY

Enrolling in the 2027 Medicare & You handbook's new digital version may not be your best option!

Toni,
 I'm enrolled in Medicare in 2025 but have not received my 2027 Medicare & You handbook, and I'm concerned about what I should do during the fall Medicare season. I have health problems, and I might make the wrong change to my Medicare or prescription drug plan. My brother said that on the cover of his Medicare & You handbook it says to go digital. What does that mean?

I am stressed by the marketing material that I am receiving from insurance plans, especially from Medicare Advantage companies. I would really appreciate any advice that you can give me since Medicare season has started. Thanks,
 Toni.
 -- Jeff from Las Vegas

Hello Jeff:
 Jeff, please take your time researching your Medicare options because your health issues. The 2027 Medicare & You handbook was mailed to more than 70 million Medicare beneficiaries after Sept. 15 to arrive before Oct. 1, in time for Medicare's Open Enrollment Period (OEP) which runs from Oct. 15 to Dec. 7.

After Sept. 25, I received my 2027 Medicare & You handbook and was surprised when I noticed a large blue star on the handbook's cover with an announcement saying, "**Go digital!** Switch to the electronic Handbook at **Medicare.gov/go-digital** and make this your last paper copy." Even for me who works every day on the Medicare.gov website, "going digital" was confusing. Jeff, please delay enrolling in the digital version until next year.

Below are the steps the Toni Says team member uses when helping clients during Medicare's OEP:

Step #1: Decide whether you want "Original Medicare" (Parts A & B) or a "Medicare Advantage" (Part C) plan.

a) Ask your doctor's office which plan it recommends. Most doctors accept "Original Medicare," but not all accept Medicare Advantage HMO or PPO plans. If you have a doctor that is in a Medicare Advantage plan's provider directory, make sure you call to verify that the physician's office will still be accepting that specific Medicare Advantage plan in the upcoming calendar year.

b) The main difference between Original Medicare and Medicare Advantage plans is that Original Medicare is administered by Medicare, and the Medicare Supplement plan that's selected pays the Medicare deductibles or coinsurances. Medicare Advantage plans are administered by private



insurance companies that are approved by Medicare.
 Step #2: Decide whether you need to enroll in or change your current Medicare Part D (prescription drug coverage) plan during Medicare's OEP enrollment time.

a) If you want Medicare Prescription Drug coverage to go along with Original Medicare, then you must enroll in a stand-alone Medicare Part D plan and there may be a monthly premium.

b) If you choose a Medicare Advantage plan, make sure that the plan has Medicare Part D Prescription Drug coverage included to keep from receiving a Medicare Part D penalty for not enrolling in a Medicare prescription drug plan.

c) Whichever plan you choose verify that all prescriptions, both brand name and generic, are covered under the Part D's plan formulary.

Step #3: Remember, you have from Thursday, Oct. 15 until midnight, Monday Dec. 7 to change or enroll in a new Part D plan for your Medicare Advantage plan or stand-alone Medicare Part D plan which both begin Jan. 1, 2027.

a) If you miss the deadline of Dec. 7, you will have to wait until the next year's Medicare OEP enrollment time.

b) Medicare's OEP is only for enrolling or changing Medicare Advantage Part D or stand-alone Medicare Part D plans. One can change Medicare supplements, long term care, or dental plans any time of year.

Remember...with Medicare, what you don't know WILL hurt you!

Take your time during Medicare's OEP to explore your Medicare options. Call the Toni Says Medicare hotline at (832) 519-8664 or email info@tonisays.com for assistance with Medicare issues. Sign up for the Toni Says newsletter at www.tonisays.com to keep up to date with Medicare changes.

Toni King is an author and columnist on Medicare, Social Security, and long-term care issues. She has spent nearly 20 years as a top sales leader in the field. If you have a Medicare question, email info@tonisays.com or call 832-519-8664.

RANDY DRAKEFORD KIKER

Randy Drakeford Kiker, 72, of Greenville, Mississippi, passed away on October 16, 2026, at The Pinnacle of Greenville in Greenville, Mississippi. Born on November 20, 1953, in Belzoni, Mississippi, Randy will be remembered for his love of life, his generous spirit, and the joy he brought to those around him.

Randy was someone who loved having a good time and, just as importantly, wanted everyone around him to have a good time, too. He had a way of enjoying life and making the moments he shared with others special. Whether he was playing a round of golf, walking his beloved dogs, or simply spending time with family and friends, Randy enjoyed the simple pleasures of life and the company of those he loved.

Randy dedicated 33 years of his working life to the United States Postal Service, serving as a rural mail carrier before retiring. His years of service reflected a long-standing commitment to his work and community. He also earned a bachelor's degree in history, demonstrating his appreciation for learning and the stories that shape our lives.

Randy was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Susan Homan Kiker, who passed away on September 30, 2015. Their shared life together remains a cherished part of his family's memories.

He leaves behind his son, Randall Kiker, and daughter-in-law, Tracy; and his daughter, Kendall Kiker Fratesi, and son-in-law, Will Fratesi. He was a proud grandfather to five grandchildren: Macy Morgan Kiker, Shaw Lynn Kiker, William Duncan Fratesi, Jr., Lela Randall Fratesi, and Anthony Grey Fratesi.



His love and influence will continue through his children, grandchildren, and the generations to come.

Randy is also survived by his siblings, Jeff Lamar Kiker Jr. and Laura Bradley, as well as extended family members and many friends whose lives were touched by knowing him.

Randy's legacy is one of family, friendship, and a genuine appreciation for enjoying life. He wanted the people around him to laugh, have fun, and make the most of their time together. Those who knew him will carry forward memories of the good times they shared, the rounds of golf, the walks with his dogs, and the many moments that made Randy uniquely himself.

Though he will be deeply missed, the joy he brought to others and the memories he created will live on in the hearts of those who loved him.

Memorial service arrangements will be held on Thursday, October 22, 2026, at 2:30 at St Thomas Episcopal Church in Belzoni, MS. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to Belzoni Animal Rescue Kennel.

Mortimer Funeral Home of Belzoni, MS has been entrusted with arrangements. Register online and express condolences at www.mortimerfh.com

SUSIE RUBY LANDI FERRETTI

Susie Ruby Landi Ferretti passed away peacefully on Tuesday, October 20, 2026 surrounded by her family. Susie was born to Mary and Joseph Landi in Greenville, Mississippi on October 29, 1927. After graduating from Greenville High School, she married the love of her life, Vincent Peter Ferretti, on December 22, 1946.

Susie started her career at Baxter Laboratories where she worked as an inspector and worked in the lab and receiving for over 27 years. She was a devoted mother of three girls, a loving grandmother, and great grandmother. She loved gardening and spent much of her time outside in her yard enjoying her plants and nature. For many years Susie and Vince were members of the Good Sam's Camping Club where they traveled to numerous places and made many wonderful friendships over the years. Susie was also a member of the Alice Bell Garden Club and enjoyed meeting with her rosary group. In her later years, she loved volunteering at the St. Vincent De Paul Society in Greenville.

She was a faithful member of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church in Shaw, Mississippi and later, St. Joseph Catholic Church in Greenville, Mississippi.

Susie was preceded in death by her husband Vincent Peter Ferretti, her parents Joseph and Mary Landi, two sisters, Judy Estess and Frances Sparkman, her grandson Michael Maranto, and her son in law Jimmy Sandifer.

Susie is survived by her three daughters: Linda Sandifer of Belzoni, MS, Carol Maranto (Mickey) of Greenville, MS, and Beth McCarville (Kirk) of Casa Grande, AZ. She is also survived by her grandchildren, whom she loved dearly: Jimmy Sandifer (Jessica), April Rhodes (Brian), Landi Mohamed (Lance), Maury Finnegan (John), and Vincent Gilbert. She also leaves thirteen great grandchildren: Kaylin Lloyd, Ann Elise Sandifer, Nora James Sandifer, Sarah Morgan Sandifer, Ann Leighton Maranto, Coleman Maranto, Isabella Rhodes, Ruby Rhodes, Jackson Rhodes, William Ollie Mohamed, Mary Landi Mohamed, Jack Finnegan, and Luke Finnegan.

Honorary pall bearers are Mickey Maranto, Kirk McCarville, Jimmy Sandifer, Brian Rhodes, Vincent Gilbert, William Ollie Mohamed, Jackson Rhodes, Jack Finnegan, and Luke Finnegan.

The family would like to thank Joy Lehman, Administrator of Magnolia Gardens, and all of her staff, especially nurse Latosha Wilson, and Jamie Allen of Adoration Hospice who cared for her with much love and support.

Mortimer Funeral Home of Greenville has been entrusted with arrangements. Register online and express condolences at www.mortimerfh.com

Memorials may be sent to: St. Vincent De Paul 711 Washington Ave. Greenville, MS 38701

Long Shots

by Richard Wiman

Long Shots is brought to you by your friends at BankPlus

THE WONDERS OF NATURE

The wonders of nature never cease to amaze me. Sunrise in a deer stand or duck blind is about as peaceful and soul-reviving as any day can bring. A misty fog that gives way to the gradual warming of the sun hosts the wonders of the coming day. Every such morning experience out in nature is a reminder of God's promise in Genesis 8:22, "While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and winter and summer, and day and night shall not cease."

A graceful doe and her twin fawns slipping through the trees is about as beautiful as any of the wonders of nature. A buck confidently ambling along, staying amazingly quiet as he steps far more quietly in the extremely dry leaves of the current drought like conditions is an amazing wonder of nature. Squirrels shaking the trees in search of acorns to munch on or to descend to the ground to bury their prize for future use is a wonder of the natural world. Only human beings, made in the image of God, understand that what we are witnessing as squirrels go about harvesting what God sowed earlier in the year and as He promised as "seedtime and harvest."

A chilly October morning that gives way to a warm afternoon is a wonder of nature. The typical thirty degree swing from morning to afternoon, which is so common for us here in the Mississippi Delta speaks clearly to the wonders of nature, God's nature. It makes me wonder if other areas of our country and places in our world get to experience the "cold and heat" that God's promise speaks of.

Not only do the events, creatures, and interactions of the daylight hours speak of the wonders of God's nature, so do the events, creations and interactions we have with them during the night hours speak of the wonders of nature. The stars have long fascinated, overwhelmed and testified to me of God's creative genius, the order of His creation, and the constant testimony to which Psalm 19:1 speaks, "The heavens declare the glory of God. The skies proclaim the works of His hands." This very week, the Orionid Meteor Shower will dazzle us in the night hours and dust and debris from Halley's Comet streaks across the night skies on October 21-22. The promise of day and night that God's promise speaks of continues to affirm that God is and that He keeps His promises to the created world, of which we are the highest of all He has made and continues to sustain.

The wonders of God's nature are also clearly teaching us vital lessons in the midst of both drought and refreshing rainy seasons. The current drought reminds us that without a personal relationship with God by faith in Jesus Christ, our souls are thirsty for God. Nothing but the refreshing rains can revive the earth, and nothing but the water of Gods Holy Spirit can regenerate our dry, thirsty, dead in sin souls. Jesus said in John 4:10, speaking with the Samaritan woman, said, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water." Truly, Jesus is the water of life, and He says in 7:38, "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."

It is a true wonder of nature that deserts bloom with life and color when rain waters those dry and thirsty lands. It is also a true wonder of God's great and eternal plan that the wonders of nature should point us to our only hope of eternal life, Jesus. What have the wonders of nature done for you?

Believing that the wonders of nature are divinely intended to point us to the God of nature and the only God who can save us from ourselves and our sins may be a long shot, but... whatever you do, don't be afraid to go with the long shots. Live life to its fullest every moment and be ready!

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CONSERVATION CORNER

Mississippi Officials Praised for Protecting Wetland and Waterfowl Habitat



migratory waterfowl, and many of those birds winter in Mississippi. Hunters have paid for these easements through Duck Stamps, hunting licenses, and Pittman-Robertson excise taxes.

In his August 5 letter, Governor Reeves called the rule a reasonable, science-based approach that protects wetland function while giving landowners certainty, and noted Mississippi hunters have long been among the nation's most committed conservationists. Senators Wicker and Hyde-Smith joined six colleagues on a letter warning that waterfowl populations are already declining and further habitat loss would be felt throughout the Mississippi Flyway. Congressmen Kelly and Guest joined 18 House colleagues on a letter asking the Department to uphold the integrity of voluntary easement contracts and prevent any drainage of protected wetlands.

by James L. Cummins
When the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service opened a brief review this summer of the rule that keeps farm drain tile from pulling water out of protected wetlands in the Prairie Pothole Region, Mississippi's leaders spoke up quickly. Governor Tate Reeves, Senators Roger Wicker and Cindy Hyde-Smith, and Congressmen Trent Kelly and Michael Guest each signed letters urging Interior Secretary Doug Burgum to keep those protections in place. They are to be commended for protecting the wetlands that produce the ducks Mississippi hunters depend on.

On July 24, the Service issued a Request for Information asking whether its 2024 drain tile setback rule was working. The rule formalized a policy followed for more than 60 years by administrations of both parties. It sets science-based distances that keep drain tile on neighboring cropland from draining wetlands protected by permanent, voluntary easements, and it gives landowners who follow their individualized setback plans a regulatory safe harbor. Conservation groups feared the review could align the rule with USDA Swampbuster standards, which allow up to 12 inches of water to be drained from a wetland over 14 days.

The stakes reach well beyond the northern prairie. The Prairie Pothole Region, known as the Duck Factory, produces more than half of North America's

They were in good company. Hunters submitted 219,428 personalized comments during the 14-day window, and more than 100,000 people signed a Ducks Unlimited petition. Louisiana Governor Jeff Landry, state wildlife agencies, conservation organizations, and outdoor brands added their voices.

On August 14, the Service announced that no further action is planned at this time while it reviews the information received. The protections remain in place for now, though the issue is not settled. We thank our state's leaders for defending the Duck Factory and will keep working to ensure the wetlands sportsmen have already paid to conserve stay wet for generations.

James L. Cummins is executive director of Wildlife Mississippi, a nonprofit conservation organization founded to conserve, restore, and enhance fish, wildlife, and plant resources throughout Mississippi. Their web site is www.wildlifemiss.org.

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GRANT - SEXTON WEDDING



Peyton Lane Sexton and James Thomas Grant were married March 16, 2026 by Mr. Woods at the county courthouse in Brandon, MS. Family and friends celebrated the newly weds September 12, 2026 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Vyner Caro in Long Beach, Mississippi.

Peyton is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tracy Sexton of Gadsden, AL. Maternal grandparents are Mr. Pete Norman of Fairhope, AL and the late Mrs. Delnora Norman. Paternal grandparents Mrs. Gail Blackmon of Georgiana, AL and the late Mr. Paul Blackmon.

James (Jay) is the son of Mr. And Mrs. David Wayne Grant of Inverness, MS. Maternal grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Vyner Caro of Houma, LA. and Mr. Gladstone Byrd Mortimer, Jr. of Waxahatchee, TX. Maternal Great-grandmother Mrs. Allie G. Thomas (Wilma) of Belzoni, MS and the late Mr. Allie G. Thomas. Paternal grandparents are Ms. Jean Grant of Germantown, Wisconsin and the late Mr. Jimmy Wayne Grant.

Peyton works for RTX's Raytheon and James works for Tesla. They have made their home in Brandon, MS.

For more details go to theknot.com search James Grant and Peyton Sexton or theknot.com/us/jamesandpeytonsayyes

Home Country Slim Randles

Squash. Just listen to that word one more time. Squash... one of the English language's most painful words, along with maim and trauma and rend and okra and Liberace. Why would anyone want to eat something that sounds as though someone sat on it.

The bottom-line truth is, cooks all over the place love a challenge, and they have tried valiantly to turn squash into an edible dish. To do this, they take one tenth of a portion of squash, boil as

much of the squashiness as they can out of it, then immerse it in nine-tenths something that tastes good and hope no one will notice. You know, stuff like chile, mutton, edible vegetables, nuclear waste, cottonwood bark and even chocolate. Then, when you can't taste the squash in it, and most of the slime has settled to the bottom, they smile and say, "How do you like my 'Squash Canneloni ala Hershey con Brio'?"

Let's face it; squash is an unwanted growth on an otherwise perfectly good vine. It starts with a pretty little blossom that inspires Navajo jewelry and attracts bees. Then it begins its insidious malignancy into something that should probably be surgically removed.

"I'm sorry Mr. and Mrs. Smith," says the surgeon, "your squash is in an area that is

PEGGY'S PONDERINGS



by Peggy Sims

Every time we turn on the news today, we hear about the war over in the Holy Lands. How horrific that we could desecrate Jesus's homeland. It makes me think about the war that was going on when I was born in the forties.

My mother and daddy married in March of 1940 and by December of 1944 they were both employed by the United States Army at Camp McCain in Elliot, Mississippi. This camp consisted of 42,000 acres and was named after a Carroll County native, Major General Henry P. McCain.

My dad did not pass. His army physical when he was called to active duty during the summer of 1942. They both needed jobs and wanted to help the war movement and working at this army base seemed a logical thing to do. Camp McCain was the home of Company 1, Third Battalion, 301st Infantry Regiment, 94th Infantry Division. This is written on the papers my mother kept tucked away all these years. She had their badges they were required to wear in a cigar box in a drawer of her chest. The pictures on the badges made them look so young. They were when my mother was 20 and my daddy was 23.

My mother went to work in one of the many laundries that washed and ironed the soldiers' uniforms. My daddy worked in the jeep and truck

impossible to reach without endangering the life of the vine. Your vine is pretty much doomed to produce something that – when cooked properly – will still gag a sick dog off a gut truck."

They even try to fool people who might consider buying squash into thinking it tastes like something else. Something like butter. Or acorns. Or crooked necks. Makes you wonder what crime against mankind Mr. Zucchini committed to be forever more squash-damned

divisions keeping the soldiers means of travel moving.

There was also a prisoner of war camp here on the base where as many as 7700 Germans were housed. These POW worked in the laundry alongside my mother. She said they talked some, but no one could understand what they were saying.

The laundry did such a poor job with the soldiers' uniforms, most of them began doing their own laundry. The laundry either lost or tore up the clothes. Mama always said it was the POWs, not the home people. Some of the POWs worked in the nearby cotton fields as well.

My daddy was born with working knowledge of machinery. He was a natural to work in the repair shops. He said it was mostly changing oil, repairing brakes, or just everyday wear and tear of the jeeps and trucks. He learned a trade here that would make his future family a living for the rest of his life.

The soldiers here were trained to use advanced infantry techniques and were in a holding pattern until they were needed in Europe and in May of 1944, they received orders to be shipped out and my parents' jobs ended shortly thereafter. The 50,000 acres was sold, except for 3000 acres and the buildings were deactivated and torn down.

My mother and daddy knew what the war caused, how it tore families apart, threw our country into a depression, but as they would tell us about their time there, it was a learning experience and a somewhat happy time in the beginning of their marriage.

My mother's rendering of Baked Spam – (The kitchens at Camp McCain relied mainly on canned food products.). Cover one can of Spam with crushed pineapple and the juice and bake for about 15 to 20 minutes at 350*. She would serve this, she said, with macaroni and cheese from a can.

in the history books.

But it's fall now. Autumn, that time of year when children play in the lazy sunshine and squash vines go belly up. And when we enjoy our pumpkin pie and jack o'lanterns, we'll smile quietly, knowing we'll once again be squash free for a few blessed months.

Brought to you by the Savor Your Flavor Society, whose members never question why you don't like squash.

Job Advertisement for Heavy Equipment Operator

Location: Humphreys County, MS
Department: Board of Supervisors

The Humphreys County Board of Supervisors is seeking to employ an experienced Heavy Equipment Operator who is capable of performing skilled operations of heavy construction and maintenance equipment. This operator will perform routine inspections and minor maintenance, follow established safety practices, and work independently or as part of a crew to complete assigned projects efficiently and safely. Individual must have knowledge of heavy-equipment operation, road construction and maintenance, trenching, grading, excavation, drainage, and basic utility-system practices; as well as knowledge of occupational hazards, equipment limitations, work-zone safety, and applicable safety procedures. Some essential duties of this position are as follows:

- *Operates equipment such as motor graders, excavators, backhoes, bulldozers, front-end loaders, rollers, skid-steer loaders, trenchers, dump trucks, and related machinery.
- *Constructs, grades, shapes, and maintains roadbeds, shoulders, ditches, slopes, and unpaved roads.
- *Excavates trenches and assists with the installation, repair, and maintenance of water lines, sewer lines, storm drains, culverts, hydrants, valves, manholes, and related utility infrastructure.
- *Loads, hauls, spreads, compacts, and places dirt, gravel, asphalt, debris, pipe, and other materials.
- *Responds to emergencies and may assist with storm cleanup, flooding, utility failures, roadway hazards, and other urgent conditions.
- *Communicates with supervisors, crew members, contractors, and the public in a professional manner.
- *Performs related duties as assigned.

Work requires prolonged sitting while operating equipment; frequent standing, walking, climbing, bending, reaching, pushing, pulling, and use of hands and feet to operate controls; and the ability to lift and carry tools, materials, and equipment weighing up to 50 pounds.

Work is performed primarily outdoors in varying weather and terrain and may involve exposure to traffic, dust, mud, noise, vibration, fumes, moving machinery, open trenches, and utility hazards. Required personal protective equipment must be worn. The position may require early-morning, evening, weekend, holiday, overtime, or on-call work during emergencies and adverse weather.

High school diploma or equivalent preferred; Two years of experience operating heavy construction, road-maintenance, or utility equipment; A valid Commercial Driver's License appropriate for assigned equipment required; Ability to obtain and maintain required safety, equipment, or utility-related certifications; Acceptable driving record and ability to meet the employer's insurability requirements; Full-time position. Health insurance, retirement plan, paid holidays and vacation leave.

All interested individuals should submit an application to the County Administrator in the Board of Supervisors office by October 28, 2026.

Humphreys County Board of Supervisors is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, or genetic information.

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All land and buildings owned and leased by the Campbell Carlton Estate and Jerry McBride is posted against all forms of trespassing. Hunting, fishing, motorcycle and ATV vehicle riding is prohibited. All previous permissions are hereby revoked. All violators will be prosecuted.
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All land owned or leased by Domino Farms is posted against all forms of trespassing.
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All land owned by the Glasscock-Johnson and Watson families on Kilby Lake is posted against all forms of trespassing. Hunting, motorcycle and ATV riding is prohibited. All previous permissions are hereby revoked. All violators will be prosecuted.
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POSTED: All land owned and leased by Holly Mound, Inc. and Gardner Family Properties, LLC is posted against all forms of trespassing. All previous permissions are hereby revoked. VIOLATORS WILL BE PROSECUTED.
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All land leased and owned by Steve Grisham is posted against all forms of trespassing. All previous permissions are revoked. Violators will be prosecuted.
45-44

2026 ELECTION IMPORTANT DATES

IN-PERSON ABSENTEE VOTING
September 21–October 31, 2026
8:00 AM–5:00 PM

SATURDAY ABSENTEE VOTING
October 24 & October 31
8:00 AM–12:00 PM

POLL WORKER & RESOLUTION BOARD TRAINING
October 15, 2026 • 5:30 PM

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SNAGGING BAGGED GOLD FROM NEIGHBORS



by Felder Rushing

Autumn leaf drop is upon us, bringing the dilemma of whether to toss the debris or put it to work. I was raised before leaf blowers and curbside leaf removal. We kids spent part of every fall weekend corralling and piling leaves under shrubs or onto the garden; only fallen limbs made it to the once-ubiquitous burn pile. And now I spend part of every year in my other home in England, where there is not a system in place for having garden

debris hauled away. So, I am very familiar with the idea of taking personal responsibility for everything that falls on my property. As a result, I am of two minds about my urban Mississippi neighbors who routinely bag and toss leaves. I understand the need for neatness, but not why folks don't simply reuse the organic garden gold. To start with, try just spreading them *en masse* under trees or in low, wide rows connecting tree trunks and shrub beds, which actually serves as safe winter haven for many hibernating beneficial insects. Or use them to change the shape and size of the lawn as a distinct brown and green yin/yan contrast, especially where grass thins out naturally. Even those that are simply mowed into the lawn will greatly improve the soil, making for deeper grass roots and a better lawn. This works for as long as the mowed leaves nearly disappear into the grass, but after they get too thick it's time to rake or blow. I accept that relatively few gardeners have a formal com-

posting area for piling leaves to break down into nutrient-rich compost to add to flower beds, shrubs, and vegetable gardens. But there is no need to maintain the right carbon:nitrogen ratio and turning, aerating, and all that - composting isn't a race! The low-input method of just neatly piling them somewhere and digging out finished compost later works just fine. That's my preferred system, a long, low windrow against the back fence, where I sort leaves, pulled weeds, spent flowers, and kitchen scraps on one end, harvest finished compost from the other, alternating back and forth all year. It works, with no extra effort or steps. I use a section of half-inch hardware cloth over a barrel to sift the useable stuff and toss the rest back on the other end. I also bury the winter-bare sections of my little raised bed veggie garden with leaves and push the rest up under shrubs and around trees to replenish the soil naturally over the winter. And earthworms eat leaves and burrow the digested nutrients down deep around

roots; they really beef up in the rich diet, often getting ten or twelve inches long! I use so many leaves I actually catch myself trucking around the neighborhood in search of ready-bagged gleanings. I check to ensure the bags are mostly from oaks and other hardwoods, no pines because pine needles don't decompose readily, and bags without a lot of sticks. Ideally, they come off lawns, because they will have been mowed into smaller bits and are usually mixed with nitrogen-rich grass clippings; I also check the adjacent lawn for small, non-threatening weeds, which tell me the clippings won't be tainted with herbicides. There are you have it. Instead of raking, bagging, and throwing them away, it's a good thing to mow leaves into the lawn, use as mulch, and connect trees and shrubs into larger beds creating smaller lawns. Plenty of good reasons to keep them on-site. Whether you're feeling creative or just practical, recycling leaves makes sense. Don't, er, blow the opportuni-



Felder Rushing is a Mississippi author, columnist, and host of the "Gestalt Garden-er" on MPB Think Radio. Visit his blog at felderrushing.blog. Email gardening questions to rushingfelder@yahoo.com.

Be Proactive: Get Your Fall/Winter Vaccinations to Fight Respiratory Viruses

Jackson, Miss.- Influenza cases are being diagnosed earlier than normal this year in some parts of the country, so the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) is urging you to prioritize getting updated vaccinations to avoid severe outcomes, including hospitalization and death. The rates of respiratory viruses such as influenza, RSV (respiratory syncytial virus) and COVID tend to increase during the fall and winter months as more people gather indoors. In Mississippi, typical influenza season usually peaks anywhere from December through March, but influenza activity can occur earlier

or later, so it is important to receive your flu vaccination prior to peak influenza activity. Everyone 6 months of age and older is recommended to get updated flu and COVID vaccinations each season, as directed by their healthcare provider. Protection against RSV is recommended for babies and older adults. The flu vaccinations that MSDH County Health Departments offer cover ages 6 months through 64 years of age; county health departments do not have the high-dose flu vaccines recommended for patients ages 65 and older. The Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that during the 2024-2025 season, flu vaccinations prevented 10 million flu illnesses, 5 million medical visits, 180,000 hospitalizations and 12,000 deaths. MSDH's "Protect & Prepare: A Grandparent's Guide" campaign educates all caregivers of infants on the importance of staying up to date on vaccinations, including pertussis (whooping cough), because they can unknowingly pass viruses onto infants, who are more susceptible to complications, including death. The CDC recommends these preventive actions to stop the

spread of respiratory viruses:

- Stay up to date with vaccinations, including flu, COVID-19 and RSV.
- Cover coughs and sneezes, wash or sanitize hands often, and clean frequently touched surfaces.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth, which spreads germs.
- Improve air quality by bringing in fresh outside air, purifying indoor air, or gathering outdoors.

Vaccinations are currently available through primary care physicians, clinics and pharmacies around the state. Your healthcare provider can determine the number and

type of doses for your age to provide the best protection. County health departments can provide vaccinations for private-pay patients of all ages through scheduled

appointments and offer vaccinations at little to no cost for those whose insurance does not cover it. Call (855) 767-0710 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

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All land owned, rented or leased by J. C. Morgan, LLC & Townsend Lake, LLC (16th Section land) is posted against all forms of trespassing. All previous permissions are revoked. All violators will be prosecuted.

30-29

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All land owned or leased by Donahoo Enterprises is posted. All previous permissions revoked. Trespassers will be prosecuted.

37-36

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All land owned and/or leased by Anchor Planting Company is posted against all forms of trespassing. Violators will be prosecuted.

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POSTED: All Fish Ponds owned by Perry Duett are posted against all forms of trespassing. All previous permissions are hereby revoked. VIOLATORS WILL BE PROSECUTED.

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All land owned by Laura P. Tedford is posted against all forms of trespassing.

43-42

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All land owned or leased by James W. Sandifer is posted against all forms of trespassing. Violators will be prosecuted.

22u James W. Sandifer

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All land owned by An Dabney Faulkner is posted against all forms of trespassing.

All previous permissions are hereby revoked. All violators will be prosecuted.

28-27

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All land owned, leased and rented by Little J Farms, Little J Hunt & Land, and James W. Sandifer, Jr. is posted against all forms of trespassing. All previous permissions are hereby revoked. Violators will be prosecuted.

James W. Sandifer, Jr. 11-10

—POSTED—

All land owned John Benard Smith III and Tortuga Farms, LLC (formerly the Jewell B Haga Estate) is posted against all forms of trespassing. All violators will be prosecuted.

48u

—POSTED—

All land and buildings owned or leased by Jimmy Turner and TNT Farms is posted against all forms of trespassing including hunting, fishing, ATV riding, and picking up of sweet potatoes. All previous permissions are hereby revoked. Violators will be prosecuted.

24-23

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Job Advertisement for Purchase Clerk

Location: Humphreys County, MS

Department: Board of Supervisors

The Humphreys County Board of Supervisors is seeking to employ a Purchase Clerk. This position performs administrative and technical work supporting the county's purchasing functions. The individual will process purchase requests and orders, maintain accurate procurement records, communicate with vendors and county departments, and help ensure purchases comply with applicable county policies, budgets, and legal requirements. It is essential that the individual pay strong attention to detail and accuracy, maintain sound judgment and the ability to follow established purchasing rules and approval processes, possess effective customer-service, problem-solving, and follow-up skills, and the ability to work independently and cooperatively with elected officials, county staff, vendors, and the public. Some essential duties of the Purchase Clerk are as follows:

- *Receive and review purchase requisitions for completeness, required approvals, account information, and available supporting documentation.
- *Prepare, issue, track, and close purchase orders in accordance with established procedures.
- *Obtain and document quotes or bids when required and assist departments with routine procurement questions.
- *Maintain vendor files, purchasing records, contracts, quotes, bids, invoices, and related documentation.
- *Coordinate with vendors and county departments to resolve order, delivery, pricing, or documentation issues.
- *Match purchase orders, receiving documentation, and invoices; refer discrepancies for resolution.
- *Monitor open purchase orders and follow up on outstanding items.
- *Prepare routine purchasing reports, correspondence, and records for review or audit.
- *Provide courteous service to county employees, vendors, and the public.
- *Perform general clerical duties and other related work as assigned.

Work is primarily performed in an office setting and may require extended periods of sitting, computer use, filing, and routine interaction by telephone, email, and in person. Reasonable accommodation may be provided to enable qualified individuals to perform the essential functions of the position. Preferred to have some experience with public-sector purchasing, county government, accounts payable, or financial administration; familiar with competitive quotes or bids, purchase-order systems, and use of AS400.

High school diploma or equivalent; At least two years of clerical, purchasing, accounts payable, bookkeeping, or related administrative experience; working knowledge of standard office practices, recordkeeping, and basic mathematics; proficiency with common office software, including word processing, spreadsheets, email, and data-entry systems; ability to organize detailed records, manage multiple priorities, meet deadlines, and maintain confidentiality; ability to communicate clearly and professionally, both orally and in writing; Full-time position; Health insurance, retirement plan, paid holidays and vacation leave.

All interested individuals should submit an application to the County Administrator in the Board of Supervisors office by October 28, 2026.

Humphreys County Board of Supervisors is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, or genetic information.

42-43

BELZONI

Heart of the Delta

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One of my greatest joys is to invite family and friends to our home for a meal. I've learned many things over the last 45 years about being a good hostess. Most of them are from my Mama, but some I learned years ago as a Home Economics major at Mississippi State. Experience is also a very good teacher. Here are a few tips and tricks to make hosting easier.

*Have a few go-to dishes. This really isn't a time to try out new recipes, unless it comes from a trusted source that the recipe is a good one.

*Make a shopping list. I am known for my organization skills. Once you've planned your menu, make a thorough list of all the ingredients you will need. I also include my menu on my list for shopping. My shopping list is usually made according to the aisles of the grocery store from front to back.

*Serve something special as a treat for your guests. I have a recipe for an appetizer called Caviar Pie that I enjoy serving. Jarred caviar can be found on the aisle with tuna, shrimp, and crabmeat and is relatively inexpensive. How impressive to serve your guests caviar!

*Cook what you grow. If you have a garden, serve fresh vegetables. Maybe you have a fruit tree or pecans that you can incorporate into you dishes. Mine would have to be fresh from the farmer's market.

*Set a pretty table. Use your plates, bowls, and glasses that you aren't accustomed to using. Always try to have some type of fresh flowers on your table. Gather things that are growing in your yard or maybe just some greenery. You can make one large centerpiece or use several small

containers. Remember not to have them too tall, so your guests can see each other while visiting during the meal.

*Have a plan for you serving dishes. I usually get out my serving pieces early and on slips of paper write down what will go in them. Don't forget your serving utensils as well.

*Don't shy away from shortcuts. Not everything needs to be made from scratch. You can also doctor up some "store bought" items to make your meal complete.

*Keep beverages simple. I usually serve water, but I step it up with my ice cubes. I make ice cubes with fruit inside of them. Blueberries, raspberries, and lemon and lime wedges work well. Boil and cool your water before making them and your ice cubes will not be cloudy.

*Say Yes to your guests. If they offer to bring something, let them. An appetizer or dessert being off of your list of things to do will cut down on your time in the kitchen. If their culinary skills are limited, a nice bottle of wine is always a good suggestion.

*Don't stress out. Sometimes that is easier said than done. Remember why you invited your guests in the first place. If something goes wrong or your evening isn't perfect – Don't Sweat the Small Stuff!

When planning my meal for a get-together, I always begin with my main dish. Then everything else will fall into place. Today I have 3 of my favorite main dishes that I enjoy serving. I hope you will give them a try. Thanks for reading.

MARINATED EYE of the ROUND ROAST
1 (5 lb.) Eye of the Round roast
¼ cup vegetable oil
2 Tbsp. lemon pepper seasoning
½ cup red wine vinegar
½ cup lemon juice
½ cup soy sauce

½ cup Worcestershire sauce
Place the roast in a heavy plastic bag. Mix the remaining ingredients and pour over roast. Marinate for 2-3 days, turning the roast at least once a day. Cook uncovered in the marinade at 250 degrees for 3 hours; refrigerate overnight. Slice thin and serve with heated marinade.

SHRIMP SPAGHETTI
3 lbs. raw, peeled shrimp
1 tsp. salt
½ tsp. basil
½ tsp. thyme
¼ tsp. garlic powder
1 Tbsp. black pepper
1 Tbsp. parsley flakes
1 Tbsp. lemon juice
1 Tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
3 sticks butter, melted
12 oz. spaghetti
8 oz. Velveeta cheese, cut into cubes
Place shrimp in a large casserole dish; add items 2-10. Cook in oven at 350 degrees for 25 minutes, stirring occasionally. Cook the spaghetti according to package directions; drain well. Combine spaghetti and cubed cheese into the hot shrimp mixture; return to oven to heat thoroughly. May be made ahead of time and heated at 325 degrees for 30 minutes.

CHICKEN with DRIED BEEF
1 jar dried beef
6 boneless chicken breasts
6 slices bacon
1 pint sour cream
1 can Cream of Mushroom Soup
1 can Cream of Chicken Soup
Place dried beef in bottom of a 9 x 13- inch baking dish (I like to cut mine into large pieces). Wrap each chicken breast with a slice of bacon and arrange on dried beef. Mix soups and sour cream and pour over the chicken. Bake at 275 degrees for 2 ½ hours. Serve over rice.

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41-40

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48-47p

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Brooks Aycock III 10-9

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12-11

Shout out to, the players of the week!

Humphreys Academy



Humphreys County



Humphreys Academy chose #32, Kole Rowland as Player of the Week. Kole had 1 catch 38 yards 1 touchdown, 4 solo tackles, 3 assists and 1 tackle for loss

Humphreys County High School chose two playeres this week. #19, Tradarrrious Smith Offensive player of the week #22 Jaylen Woodard Defensive Player of the Week

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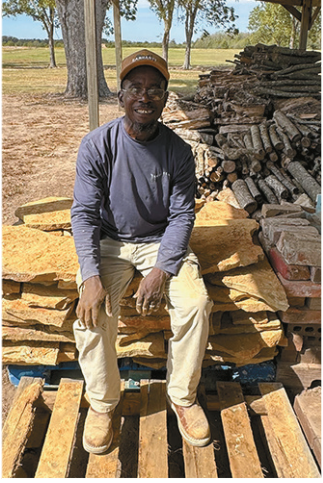


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AMAZING MEMORIES: GROWING UP IN BELZONI

Building a Legacy in Stone - The Aldo Johnson Story

By Ann Simmons Tanner







Craftsmanship like masonry often runs in the family, passed down through generations. Many long-time residents of the Mississippi Delta might remember **Mr. Karl Muller**, a former German prisoner of war, stationed in the Mississippi Delta during World War II. After the war, he chose to return here, building a life as a respected and well-loved mason who taught the trade to his family. Mr. Muller even designed and built the fireplace in my childhood home – a structure that became the heart of our century-old family farmhouse near **Sky Lake** in **Humphreys County**.

Decades later, when my husband, Steve, and I set out to renovate the farmhouse, we needed a skilled mason for several major projects: constructing a stone gas log fireplace for our family room, building a brick front porch, laying a brick and pavestone walkway, and restoring the original 1960s fireplace Mr. Muller built so many years ago.

We were referred to **Mr. Aldo Johnson**, owner and operator of **Johnson Masonry Construction** in **Greenville, MS**. With over 30 years of experience, Aldo came highly recommended. We hired him immediately, and that is where our story with Aldo begins.

Deep Delta Roots

Aldo comes from a long line of master bricklayers. He was trained in the craft by his grandfather and his uncle. The elder **Mr. Billy Johnson** worked for many years for **Santucci and Sons Construction Inc** in **Leland**. In a small-world Delta twist, my sister, **Susan Simmons**, married **Anthony Santucci**, the current owner of Santucci and Sons. Aldo's grandfather died at the age of 86, but worked well into his eighties before retiring. Billy Johnson also passed the trade to Aldo's father, who moved to Texas to practice his trade.

Today, Aldo lives in Greenville with his wife, **Quandra**, who works as a health care nutritionist. They were high school sweethearts who took separate paths in life before reconnecting and marrying 20 years ago. They share a blended family of seven children and mourn the loss of one who passed away.

A Partnership Built on Trust

To handle complex projects, Aldo hired **Chris Young**, another talented mason trained by Aldo's grandfather. Aldo and Chris worked side-by-side for more than a decade, including work on the stone fireplace and front porch at our Sky Lake house. Tragically, in 2024 shortly after finishing our farmhouse project, Chris suffered a fatal heart attack while on a job in Greenville and passed away in Aldo's arms. Aldo misses his partner every day, often reflecting on the seamless work they shared on job sites. Aldo joked that the two of them working together "*Could even build the Empire State Building*".

A Reputation Earned One Brick at a Time

Over the decades, Aldo's work ethic and skill have earned him a stellar reputation across the Delta and many memorable stories. When Aldo and Chris were hired to work on the reconstruction of **Tractor Supply Co** in **Greenville**, the owner took one look at the two-man crew and expressed doubts that they could complete the job. By the time they finished, the owner was so impressed that he told Aldo that he would not let them leave and would find them permanent work onsite. I asked Aldo if he stayed at Tractor Supply. Aldo laughed, recalling the moment, "*No! I was off to my next job.*"

On another occasion, Aldo was hired to complete the brickwork for **Living Word Fellowship Church** in Greenville, MS. When he arrived onsite, the hiring official insisted a single man could not possibly lay all those bricks. Without hesitation, Aldo tackled the job alone, laying every single brick on the church with his own two hands. It is important to note that Aldo does not wear gloves for hand protection as he works. He says he has to "feel" the materials, and gloves interfere with his sense of touch.

Aldo's reputation for perfection is so well known that it left a project permanently on hold. Aldo built the foundation for a new house in Shaw. His work set the quality bar so high, the owner refused to hire anyone else, believing no one else could match Aldo's standards. To this day, the home remains unbuilt.

Carrying on the Craft

Even though Aldo and Quandra have a large blended family, none of their children have chosen to follow in the heavy physically demanding footsteps of the masonry trade. Yet, Aldo continues his craft day after day with pride and dedication. Working mostly alone now, he routinely delivers the quality and output of a much larger crew, leaving a lasting legacy built in stone and brick across the Mississippi Delta.